

Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

DCI/DDCI Executive Staff

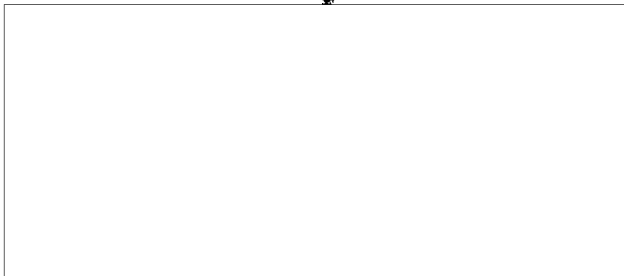
8 October 1986

Bob,

Here's some background material for
your meeting with US Customs Commissioner
Von Raab tomorrow.

TAB K - Narcotics issues from
Bill Katopis

TAB L - Tech Transfer issues from
TTAC



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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

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National Intelligence Council

9 October 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Attention: [redacted]

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SUBJECT: Visit with Commissioner William von Raab, USCS
on 10 October 1986

1. Commissioner William von Raab of the United States Customs Service is planning to visit the DDCI on Friday, 10 October 1986, at 1000 hours. It will be strictly a social call with no "hidden agenda." According to USCS insiders, the Commissioner likes to engage in personal liaison activity over cups of coffee.

2. Here are a few bullets, from the perspective of the NIO/Narcotics to provide a backdrop for the visit:

- The Commissioner is very upset about the narcotics situation in Mexico. His congressional testimony and public statements to this effect have attracted heavy media coverage along with his view that the State Department is "too soft on Mexico."

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In the new setup at the U.S. Customs Intelligence Division, two customs careerists, i.e. Bill Meglen and Hank Marsden will be the Chief and Deputy Chief respectively. This signals that Customs feels it can fly on its own in terms of running their Intelligence Division.

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- The Customs Service has come to the Agency's Office of Training and Education in the past and asked for and received training in intelligence analysis. It is likely that another request along these lines will be forthcoming from Customs and Commissioner von Raab may mention this to the DDCI.
 - One of the major projects under the current purview of the National Drug Enforcement Policy Board is the so-called "Project Alliance," also known as the "Southwest Border Initiative." The effort, a major attempt to curb drug trafficking across the southwest border, is under the direction of Commissioner von Raab's Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Operations: Frank Keating. The project is building to become the largest assault ever seen on drug trafficking over the border. In addition to some 150 new hires, Customs Service is transferring another 150 officers from other assignments to the U.S.-Mexican border posts. It's an effort worth watching and perhaps commenting to Commissioner von Raab about.
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William R. Kotapish

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OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY OF
WILLIAM VON RAAB
U.S. COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

William von Raab was appointed as the 13th Commissioner of the U.S. Customs Service on October 13, 1981. Since that time, he has instituted a number of programs and changes aimed at tougher enforcement of Customs laws, improved cargo and passenger inspection systems, and a more efficient electronic international trade environment.

Over the past three years, Commissioner von Raab has pushed for a trade-wide effort to speed up international cargo processing through the use of automation. The Customs Automated Commercial System (ACS) totally redesigned Customs entry processing, duty collection, and cargo processing systems.

In 1982, Commissioner von Raab began the highly-touted export enforcement program "Operation Exodus," which is aimed at stopping illegal exports of critical technology and arms. He has also led the Reagan Administration's stepped-up fight against child pornography, and thrown the full weight of the Customs Service into the war against drug smuggling.

Prior to his appointment as Commissioner, Mr. von Raab was a partner in the Washington office of North Haskell Young and Lewis. He has also served as the Vice President of Administration at New York University. Previous Government posts include those of Executive Assistant to the Administrator of the Federal Energy Administration, Consultant to the Director of the Bureau of East-West Trade at the Commerce Department, and Director of the Pay Board for the Cost of Living Council.

Commissioner von Raab was born on January 26, 1942, in Rochelle, New York. He is a graduate of Yale College and the University of Virginia Law School. He resides with his wife, Susan, and daughter, Alexandra, on their farm in Madison County, Virginia.

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